

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): An empennage assembly for a model aircraft, the assembly comprised of:

- a fuselage having a bottom portion with an opening;
- a self-threading housing positioned in the opening in the bottom portion of the fuselage, the housing having a first end defining an opening and a second end;
- a rod extending from an underside of a vertical stabilizer; and
- a horizontal stabilizer having a hole aligned with the opening in the bottom portion of the fuselage, the housing and the rod, whereby the rod is positioned within the opening in the first end of the housing to secure the vertical and horizontal stabilizers to the fuselage, ~~the housing is self-threading.~~

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (original): The assembly of claim 1, wherein the rod is threaded.

Claim 4 (original): The assembly of claim 1, wherein the housing includes:

- a cylindrical portion; and
- an inner conic shape that is adapted to center the rod in the cylindrical portion.

Claim 5 (original): The assembly of claim 1, wherein the second end of the housing forms a finger-grip bolt head.

Claim 6 (original): The assembly of claim 1, wherein:

- the rod has a first end and a second end; and
- the first end is secured to the underside of the vertical stabilizer.

Claim 7 (original): The assembly of claim 6, wherein:

- the first end has a first width;
- the second end has a second width; and
- the first width is greater than the second width.

Claim 8 (original): The assembly of claim 6, wherein:

- both the first end and the second end are threaded; and
- the first end is glued to the underside of the vertical stabilizer.

Claim 9 (original): The assembly of claim 1, wherein the rod is made of steel.

Claim 10 (original): The assembly of claim 1, wherein:

- the opening is one of a plurality of openings;
- a housing is positioned in each of the plurality of openings;
- a plurality of rods extend from the underside of the vertical stabilizer; and
- the horizontal stabilizer has a plurality of holes, each of the plurality of holes aligned with one of the housings and one of the plurality of rods, whereby the each rod is positioned within one of the housings to secure the vertical and horizontal stabilizers to the fuselage.

Claims 11-23 (canceled)